

House Republican Press Release

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Representative Carson Appointed To Leadership Position



State Representative Mary Ann Carson, R-New Fairfield, has been appointed by House Minority Leader Robert M. Ward, R-North Branford, to the post of Assistant Minority Leader in the House of Representatives. She was elected to her third full term representing the 108th District, which is comprised of Kent, New Fairfield, Sherman and part of New Milford, on November 2, 2004.

Rep. Carson's new duties will include developing legislative strategy and having more direct input on policy issues, particularly those working to improve the quality of life in western Connecticut. Also, she will work with fellow caucus members to build consensus on issues before the General Assembly.

"Rep. Carson has proven that she works hard and is dedicated to the residents of her district and our state," Rep. Ward said. "In her new role, she will be in an even stronger position to influence legislation to help the people of New Fairfield, Kent, Sherman and New Milford on matters of importance to them. Her experience is invaluable and Mary Ann will be an extremely effective leader. I look forward to working with her in that capacity."

"It is an honor to be appointed to this position," said Rep. Carson. "After serving nearly six years in the Legislature, I am certainly looking forward to the added responsibilities and opportunities. The Legislature will address a number of serious issues during the next two years and it will be a challenging time to serve in a leadership role."

Rep. Carson has also been appointed by Rep. Ward to serve on the Legislature's Public Health Committee, Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee and Program Review and Investigations Committee.

The Public Health Committee has cognizance of all matters relating to the Department of Public Health; the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services and the Department of Mental Retardation; the Office of Health Care Access; and all other matters relating to health, including emergency medical services, all licensing boards within the Department of Public Health, nursing homes, pure food and drugs, and controlled substances, including the treatment of substance abuse.

The Finance Committee has jurisdiction over all matters relating to finance, revenue, capital bonding, fees and taxation. The committee also has cognizance over employer contributions for unemployment compensation and all matters relating to the Department of Revenue Services and the revenue aspects of the Division of Special Revenue.

The Program Review and Investigations serves as the General Assembly's "watchdog" over the executive branch of the State government. The committee is a bipartisan statutory group consisting of twelve members. The committee is charged with the duty of examining state government programs and their administration to ascertain whether such programs are effective, continue to serve their intended purposes, are conducted in an efficient and effective manner, or require modification or elimination.

